# Mountain Weather Forecast

## Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Thursday 08 Feb 2024 until 23:59 on Friday 09 Feb 2024

Forecast Issued on Thursday 08 Feb 2024 at 04:17

**Confidence:** Medium

**Headline for Thursday 08 Feb 2024:** Summit gales and afternoon snow. Severe wind chill.

**Mountain weather hazards on Thursday 08 Feb 2024**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Blizzards**<br>Low Likelihood | **Heavy persistent snow**<br>Low Likelihood | **Storm force winds**<br>No Likelihood |
| **Gales**<br>Medium Likelihood | **Severe chill effect**<br>High Likelihood | **Poor visibility**<br>High Likelihood |
| **Thunderstorms**<br>No Likelihood | **Heavy persistent rain**<br>No Likelihood | **Strong sunlight**<br>No Likelihood |

| **Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m** | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Time | | | | | |
| 06:00 | 09:00 | 12:00 | 15:00 | 18:00 | 21:00 |
| | | | | | |
| Cloudy | Light snow | Heavy snow | Heavy snow | Heavy snow | Light snow |
| Precipitation probability | | | | | |
| 10% | 20% | 50% | 80% | 80% | 80% |

**Forecast for Thursday 08 Feb 2024**

**Weather:** Dry and cold start but cloud thickening and lowering during the morning, some patchy light snow from mid-morning. The snow becoming more persistent through the afternoon and evening, mainly across the Eastern and Far Eastern Fells, occasionally heavy. Summit gales developing with severe wind chill, temporary blizzard and whiteout conditions possible at height.

**Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m:** 90% falling to 30%, the lowest cloud expected over the Eastern and Far Eastern Fells.

**Low cloud and visibility:** Cloud becoming extensive, base 600 to 900m, during daylight hours, patches or occasional to 300m across the Eastern and Far Eastern Fells during the afternoon and evening. Visibility starting very good, but becoming poor or very poor at height.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
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# Mountain Weather Forecast

**Forecast for Thursday 08 Feb 2024**

| Height (m) | Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from) | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 06:00 | 09:00 | 12:00 | 15:00 | 18:00 | 21:00 | 00:00 |
| **900** | 23/34 E | 45/53 E | 54/64 E | 54/64 E | 56/68 E | 54/68 E | 51/63 E |
| **600** | 26/36 E | 36/46 E | 37/47 E | 38/49 E | 42/57 E | 43/59 E | 37/50 E |
| **300** | 12/26 E | 18/35 E | 17/39 E | 18/41 E | 22/45 E | 25/48 E | 24/46 E |
| **Valley** | 6/17 E | 14/32 E | 13/34 E | 17/40 E | 21/45 E | 22/46 E | 21/44 E |

| Height (m) | Temperature / Feels Like (°C) | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 06:00 | 09:00 | 12:00 | 15:00 | 18:00 | 21:00 | 00:00 |
| **900** | -3/-11 | -4/-15 | -4/-15 | -3/-14 | -3/-15 | -4/-16 | -4/-15 |
| **600** | -2/-11 | -2/-12 | -2/-11 | -2/-11 | -2/-12 | -2/-12 | -2/-11 |
| **300** | 0/-5 | -1/-8 | -0/-6 | -0/-7 | -0/-8 | 0/-7 | 1/-6 |
| **Valley** | 2/-1 | 1/-4 | 2/-3 | 1/-4 | 1/-5 | 2/-4 | 3/-3 |
| **Freezing Level*** | 100m | 200m | 300m | 300m | 300m | 300m | 300m |

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

**Meteorologist's View**

Very challenging winter conditions through the afternoon and evening.

**Forecast for Friday 09 Feb 2024**

**Weather:** Cloudy and overcast with outbreaks of snow overnight and during the morning, perhaps sleet at times in the valleys. The snow heavy at times, particularly over the Eastern and Far Eastern Fells, with blizzard and whiteout conditions at times. A mixture of rain and snow through the afternoon as milder conditions push in from the south, then mainly rain and drizzle in the evening.

**Maximum wind:** East or Northeast 35mph gusts 55mph early, easing during the day.

**Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m:** 20%

**Low cloud and visibility:** Occasional or extensive cloud, base 600 to 900m, patches or occasional to 300m, mainly in the east. Visibility moderate to very poor.

**Temperature:** **Valleys:** Zero gradually rising to Plus 5 Celsius
**At 800m:** Minus 3 Celsius gradually rising to Plus 2 Celsius
**Freezing level:** All levels gradually rising near or above the summits.

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# Mountain Weather Forecast

**Ground Conditions Supplement**

Date: Wednesday 7 February 2024 Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:05 Full report: This report comes with a health warning in that, at the time of writing, the Lake District is under a Met Office Yellow warning for snow at all levels from 6am on Thursday to 6am on Friday, so walkers out on Thursday should expect to find very different conditions on the fells (as well as the valleys and roads) to those experienced and described today. This report will, though, provide knowledge as to what the fresh snow will be falling onto. In the morning, the vast majority of the Lakeland fells, and probably all paths, were free from snow. The only snow remaining lay above 900m on steep north and especially east facing aspects. These snow patches were hard and icy, however owing to their locations they represent no hazard to walkers. Although paths were mostly dry, there were isolated patches of ice, mainly above 500m, on drainage lines and wherever puddles had frozen. Conditions changed after midday when there were light showers which fell as snow, above c600m, consisting of “flakes” resembling miniature balls of hail. Although barely noticeable on the ground, they made conditions slippery especially on exposed routes and particularly where they froze on rocks. Despite the light winds, the summit windchill (what the temperature actually feels like) at midday was minus 11 degrees C. Therefore, full winter clothing (waterproofs – which double as windproofs - , extra warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots and equipment, including a torch, are all essential to safely, and enjoyably, roam the fells. Given the weather forecast and associated challenging conditions, walkers out on Thursday would be wise to also carry an ice axe and crampons if attempting steep and exposed routes or microspikes and walking poles if on easier terrain. Goggles are also recommended. There is also the possibility for whiteout conditions given the combination of snow and wind so excellent navigational skills will also be required. Thursday has the potential to be a day when making wise decisions will be more crucial than normal which could include leaving the fells for another, and more enjoyable, day! Temperature: minus 3.3 C Maximum wind speed 12.8 mph Wind chill: minus 10.8 C Average wind speed: 10.2 mph

Issued at: 04:17 on Thu 08 Feb 2024

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